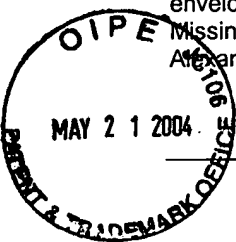


# CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope, with sufficient postage, addressed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on



May 19, 2004  
Date of Deposit

G. Peter Nichols, Reg. No. 34,401

Name of Applicant, Assignee or  
Registered Representative

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Peter Nichols", written over a horizontal line.

Signature

May 19, 2004  
Date of Signature

Our Case No.: 10908/6

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: )  
)  
Schaekers et al. )  
) Group Art Unit: 1754  
Serial No.: 10/733,907 )  
) Examiner: unknown  
Filed: December 11, 2003 )  
)  
For: SOLVENT EXTRACTION MIXTURE )  
FOR THE SEPARATION OF )  
GROUPS OF BASE METALS )

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop Missing Parts  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

The references now cited are the following:

**US PATENTS**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>
US 5,478,539 A	12/26/1995	Dalton
US 5,213,777 A	05/25/1993	Dalton
US 4,356,309 A	10/26/1982	Hamburg, et al.

**FOREIGN PATENTS**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Country</b>
GB 2 054 543 A	02/18/1981	Great Britain
DD 155 295 B	06/02/1982	East Germany
EP 0 513 966 A	11/19/1992	Europe
DD 299 059 A	03/26/1992	East Germany

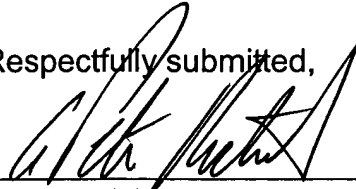
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

The relevance of the East German references is that they were cited as Category A references in the corresponding PCT search report.

Applicant(s) respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Peter Nichols', is written over a horizontal line.

G. Peter Nichols  
Registration No. 34,401  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE  
P.O. Box 10395  
Chicago, IL 60610  
(312) 321-4200



FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. <b>10/733,907</b>	CASE NO. <b>10908/6</b>
<b>LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>	FILING DATE <b>December 11, 2003</b>	GROUP ART UNIT <b>1754</b>
(use several sheets if necessary)	APPLICANT(S): <b>Schaekers et al.</b>	

**REFERENCE DESIGNATION****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	4,356,309 A	10/26/1982	Hamburg, et al.		
	A2	5,213,777 A	05/25/1993	Dalton		
	A3	5,478,539 A	12/26/1995	Dalton		

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES OR NO
	A4	GB 2 054 543 A	02/18/1981	Great Britain		No
	A5	DD 155 295 B	06/02/1982	East Germany		No
	A6	DD 299 059 A	03/26/1992	East Germany		No
	A7	EP 0 513 966 A	11/19/1992	Europe		No

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.